



**Brentwood
Borough
School
District**

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

BY DR. AMY M. BURCH

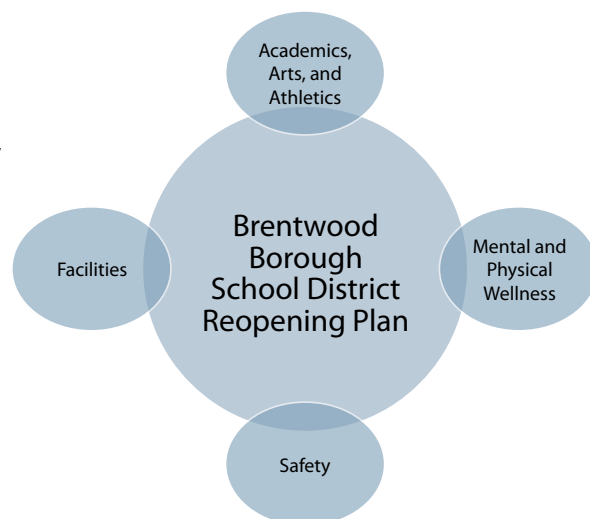


Learning Together Tomorrow

By the time you receive this publication, Allegheny County will have moved into the **Green Phase** of reopening. Previously, Governor Wolf issued that all school buildings remained closed through June 30, 2020. Now that it is July, we are in the process of determining how we will **Learn Together Tomorrow**. We have an opportunity to reimagine learning. Over the course of the summer, each of the areas listed in the illustration will be redefined for a post COVID-19 world.

The District gathered feedback from families, faculty, and staff in June. July and August will consist of planning, training, and the revising of plans. As the saying goes, "change is the only constant in life". Rest assured that plans will be posted on the website and Skylert messages will alert families of changes in school operation.

We strongly encourage families to monitor family Skyward accounts to make sure that email addresses, cell phone numbers, and home addresses are current. In addition, some families were not receiving updates because the Skylert emails were listed as "blocked email" or were going to junk or spam mailboxes. To correct this, families must adjust their personal email settings. We will continue planning for **Learning Together Tomorrow**, and we remain committed to assisting all of our families.



HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

High School Earns Civic Engagement Award

By Mrs. Linda Capozzoli

The District was notified that the high school earned the Governor's Civic Engagement Award. Despite extraordinary and challenging circumstances, a record number of schools earned this award. A total

of 41 schools across Pennsylvania earned the award which far exceeds the total from the previous year. The schools represented 23 counties and a total of 3,992 students were registered to vote.

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan organization, visited the seniors at Brentwood High School in March to help students register to vote. They presented general information to empower the students to vote for issues they are passionate about in the upcoming election.



Lessons Learned

By Dr. Barbara Pagan

The teachers at Elroy enjoy interacting with students inside and outside of the classroom. The relationship building, interaction, and nonverbal modes of communication may seem minor, but they have large effects on teachers and students. They combat teacher burnout by creating job satisfaction. Although the opportunity for teachers and students to interact still exists with online learning, online education is a more limited environment that cannot reproduce the same depth of interactions that occur face-to-face. Remote learning does not provide the physical proximity that encourages these kinds of interactions. This distance factor alone reduces the chance that students will meet their potential. Online students can interact with their teachers, but again the medium is limited in its ability to re-create the many nuances associated with face-to-face interactions.

In face-to-face classes, students have their classmates, learning centers, tutors, and paraprofessionals to support and help them with their various learning

needs. These resources guide them, clarify, reinforce the material, and allow them to succeed in their education. Teachers understand the value of these resources and forms of support. However, online instruction may not provide sufficient student support. As online courses were mandated for the last term of school this year, teachers tried to find new ways to incorporate these resources and forms of support into their class.

The most obvious loss with the online environment is that students and teachers are physically and temporally disconnected. In the world of online teaching there is much talk about synchronous and asynchronous classrooms. The former is a class where teacher and students are together online simultaneously and can interact in "real time." The latter is one where the teacher posts information at one time and the student accesses the class and posts comments and interactions at different times. Regardless of the design associated with the online experience, the interpersonal relationship is inherently

different when students and teachers are not actually together in the same place. After all, there is something personal about sitting face to face with a student, determining by conversation or body language, what the student does or does not understand. Teachers enjoy standing in front of a classroom to talk, discuss, explore, read facial expression, sometimes argue, and often laugh together with their students. Even in the best online classroom, this just is not possible.

In addition, there is a worry that online education is not as rigorous as that which happens in the classroom. Rigor is what counts. Rigor is important in the traditional classroom and is equally significant online. Rigor is that which leads a student to the understanding, knowledge, applications, skills, and competencies that are required for academic success, regardless of whether the student is sitting in a classroom or before a computer screen. But most important, we miss seeing and interacting with our students daily. We hope that we can be together again soon.

Elroy Honors Presidential Education Award Winners

Mrs. Matthews and Dr. Pagan personally delivered Presidential Education Award Winners with a certificate. To qualify students must earn a Proficient or Advanced in Math and Reading on the fourth grade PSSA and earn a 3.5 for higher in fourth grade and the first half of fifth grade. Congratulations to all our students who earned the Presidential Award.





Making Some New Pen Pals

By Mrs. Anne Steigerwald

The first graders at Moore Elementary are excited about writing, especially because they are writing to their very own first grade Pen Pals! A pen pal may seem like something out of a history book, but this project allowed students to socialize and build relationships with a friend far away. The first graders were matched with students in another school, exchanged pictures, and learned how to write a friendly letter. In writing to others, the students perfected their handwriting skills, built reading skills and practiced using correct grammar, capitalization and punctuation.

Star Wars Day in Kindergarten

By Ms. Rachael Maiden and Mrs. Christie O'Neill

Kindergarten students have been partaking in virtual "Show and Tells" but the week of May fourth was a special type of show and tell. Kindergarteners celebrated May the fourth with a special episode of Star Wars, episode MMXX, Quarantine. Families submitted to their teachers photos of their students celebrating the heroes and essential workers through the joy of Star Wars. The teachers then took those photos and turned them into a May the Fourth video. These short video clips help the students and teachers feel connected to each other even though everyone is learning remotely.

Episode MMXX, Quarantine opened with this brief background summary. "Long, long ago (or so it seems) in a school not so far away, children came to learn and have fun together. Then an evil virus came to the world and people were forced to stay home to be safe. All except a brave set of warriors who manned the front lines fighting the evil virus or helping to maintain the essentials of the world to keep life as safe and normal as possible. To show their appreciation to these brave warriors and essential workers the children wondered what they could do to help. The answer lies in the joy and smiles of youth. Knowing that the children and parents were going a bit stir crazy the kindergarten teachers gave their students a mission, to help create a video to make people smile in hard times. The teachers chose to center this activity around a small celebration, known to only a few, called 'Star Wars Day.' Though the participants be small, they have the might to put smiles on faces."



Food Truck Fun

By Ms. Jessica Downey

Students may not have been in their classroom for the 4th quarter, but they were still able to do some amazing projects throughout their time at home. Several students of the 4th grade class completed an enrichment Math Project. Through a Project Based Learning activity, students created a Food Truck Business for their final project of the year. Students were to create a business plan that included the type of business, a slogan, the menu, and a 3D model of their truck. Students even had the opportunity to take customers' orders throughout their project. The Project Based Learning activity tied together different math skills the students have learned throughout the year.

Throughout this time, some of the students visited Food Trucks and even talked to business owners about establishing a business. Hudson McKain was able to visit and talk with the owners of Millie's



Homemade Ice Cream Truck, Katie Smerecky and Kayleigh Lucas, to get some advice on running a successful Food Truck Business that can was able to use for his project. This is one of the students' favorite projects throughout the year.



Distance Learning Art

By Ms. Jessica Graff

Each week elementary students at Brentwood have focused on a theme or an artist, for example, kindness or nature. Students have created kindness rocks that they have placed around the community and have sent kindness notes to friends or neighbors. Art class has also traveled to the backyard with the inspiration of the artist Andy Goldsworthy, who has taught us to find items in nature and re-purpose sticks, leaves, rocks, and much more into beautiful mandalas and sculptures. Art is flexible, we have found new ways to process and express our new learning environment and have created an adventure along the way! Visit our virtual art room: <https://sites.google.com/view/mrs-graffs-classroom>.

The Love of Reading Prevails

By Ms. Katie Cosner

Students at Brentwood School District have been learning remotely since March, but that has not stopped them from immersing themselves into all of their school work! The librarian, Ms. Katie Cosner, has created a website which houses weekly activities and resources for the students. While teaching library skills from home can be a challenge, there are multitudes of resources available online for teachers who wish to continue to encourage the love of reading with students. Some of the lessons the students enjoyed the most were watching real authors and illustrators read their



own books online. To exhibit what they have learned, the children, with the help of their parents, showed evidence of their understanding to Ms. Cosner by submitting pictures (animal drawings and fort building are some examples) as well as completing Google forms. This has been a difficult time for everyone, but our students have truly been adaptable and willing to put forth their best effort in learning and in reading!

Brentwood School District "Heroes"

By Mr. David Radcliffe

The impact of the Coronavirus pandemic has had a profound impact on families across the nation. "Stay at home" orders, closing of "non-essential" businesses, and the transition to remote learning for schools caused much anxiety for parents, students, and school districts alike. The economic and social implications of the Coronavirus "shutdown" were significant for many families and changed life as we knew it. In addition to the disruption of typical work schedules and responsibilities, families were also challenged with helping to make sure that their students stayed on



top of their school work in the new, remote environment.

One small way that the Brentwood Borough School District provided support to families during this challenging time was through the meal distribution program. Three days per week, Brentwood families were able to visit the middle/high school to pick up breakfast and lunch meals. Led by Nicole Wilding, Food Service Director for the The Nutrition Group, the cafeteria

staff worked tirelessly to prepare hundreds of meals for the students. On average, approximately 200-250 meals were distributed each day with a single day high of 361 meals.

The Brentwood Borough School District thanks Mrs. Wilding and her staff for their amazing efforts in helping our families in their time of need. During a very challenging time, they demonstrated that "We Are All In This Together!"

Crisis Leads to Opportunity

By Dr. Chris Winiarski

The COVID-19 crisis is quickly challenging Americans to rethink every aspect of our daily lives including how our children access their schools. The Chinese word for crisis means "danger," but it also means "opportunity". It is a compelling thought that can lead systems to develop and implement important and much needed changes. Weeks into the "Stay at Home" order issued by Governor Wolf, the district had to figure out a way to have parents be able to enroll their children for kindergarten for the upcoming school year as the process that had been utilized in the past required parents to come into the school building, meet with school personnel, and submit required documentation. Brentwood schools have used this time during the COVID crisis to develop a new system to aid in the student enrollment process.

On May 4, 2020 the district rolled out a new kindergarten online registration process. Families seeking to enroll a kindergartner in the 20/21 school year can access the system through the district's website at www.bb-sd.com and clicking on the Registration tab

on the homepage. The system will prompt the family to enter a parent/guardian name and a valid email address and will issue a username and password. The registration process still requires the family to upload essential documents including the student's birth certificate, 2 proofs of residency, current immunization records, and current lease/deed. If the family has all required documentation collected and available, the registration process can be completed in 20-25 minutes. After the family enters all required information and clicks the Submit button, district staff review information and send the family an email letting them know if the enrollment is complete or if additional information is required. Families who do not have access to a computer can call the district, and staff will assist them in getting their child enrolled.

While this new online enrollment system is being used for kindergarten registration only at this time, the District is planning to utilize this same platform for all enrollments later this Summer.



Tips for Cleaning Electronics During COVID-19

By Mrs. Melissa Fulmer



During the COVID-19 pandemic, it is important that the electronics in your home with commonly touched surfaces are cleaned and disinfected. The following tips provide some guidance on how to clean computers, computer

accessories, touchscreen devices and electronics that are considered high-touch items. When cleaning these high-touch items, it is important to follow the manufacturer recommendation for specific cleaning requirements.

General Cleaning Tips:

- Use a lint-free cloth, such as a screen wipe or a cloth made from microfiber.
- Avoid excessive wiping and submerging item in cleaner to avoid damage.
- Unplug all external power sources and cables.
- Do not use aerosol sprays, bleach, or abrasive cleaners.
- Ensure moisture does not get into any openings.
- Never spray cleaner directly on an item.

Approved COVID-19 Disinfectants Safe for Computers, Accessories, and Electronics

- Using a Clorox disinfectant wipe or a wipe containing 70% alcohol, gently and carefully wipe the hard, nonporous surface of the item. This includes the display, keyboard, mouse and the exterior surface of the item. If you have concerns about the cleaning product being used, please refer to the manufacturer's recommendations and warning label.
- When using a disinfectant wipe, it is important to follow the contact time found on the label. It may be necessary to use more than one wipe to keep the surface wet for the recommended contact time.
- Do not use fabric or leather surfaces on items, as this can scratch or damage to the items.
- Do not use bleach to disinfect computers and electronics

Manufacturer Specific Recommendations

- How to clean your Apple Products:
<https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT204172>
- Microsoft Clean and Care for your Surface:
<https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/4023504/surface-clean-and-care-for-your-surface>



Brentwood High School Class of 2020



*Congratulations
Class of 2020!*



Rohit Acharya



Chase Jordan Adams



Maci Elizabeth Aloisio



Cody James Bagnall



Tyler Job Barefoot



Stella Mary Barker

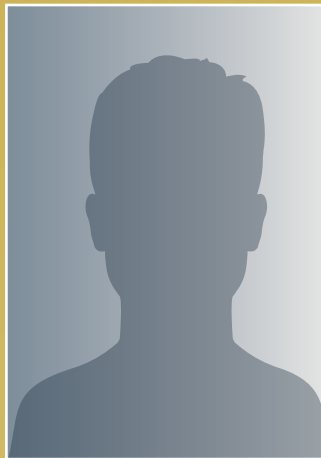
Brentwood High School Class of 2020



Nicholas Aiden Barrett



Luke James Bauer



Tyler James Benson



Sean Adam
Brittenbaugh



Alexandra Elizabeth
Campbell



Peter Jeffrey Carozza



Nishan Chapagain



Addel Chater



Apshara Chhetri



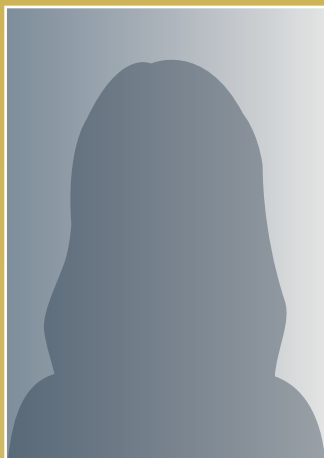
Neesha Darjee



Aidan James Davis



Akir Mangong Deng



Ava Elizabeth Dorrance



Esau Ottoniel Dubon Landaverde



Juan David Eira Charfuelan



Ivy Marie Feldmeier



Leah Marie Fuchs



Alexis Rose Gidias



Edward Gomez



Shashak Gurung



Kylie Rose Hammond



Jacob Nathaniel Haney



Ryan James Hartman



Gabriel Valentine Hess

Brentwood High School Class of 2020



Jessica Hines



Aiden Crawford
Hoffman



Nakiyah Marie
Jackson



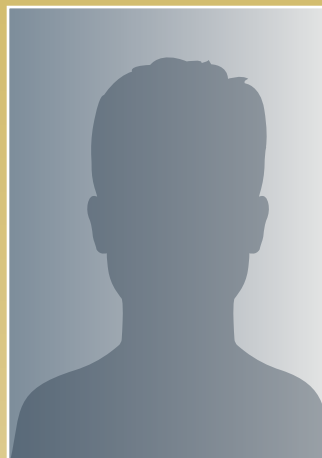
Kayla Nicole Kacsuta



Jarod Wayne Keeling



Dylan Lawrence
Kenny



Noah Thomas
Kirchner



Ashley Jenna Klein



Abigail Grace Klemm



Tristan Robert
Kuehner



Jason Joseph Lamison



Mikayla Frances Lane



Jayneil Kehler Latham



Brianna Magdalene
Leddy



Shane Walter Lesko



Sarah Elizabeth
Livingston



Alexis Taylor Lubawski



Chad Brandon
Lubawski Jr



Catarin Mishell
Magallon Pena



David Andres Males



Maxwell Samuel
Marcello



Kaylie Rose March



Araina Rylee Martin



Aaron Lee
McPherson Jr

Brentwood High School Class of 2020



John William Milcic IV



Michael Austin Miller



Seth Michael Nordeen



Allison Lynn Novak



Jency Fabiana Perez
Rincon



Heman Phuyel



Jacob Daniel Piccolo



Derek Edward
Andrew Pichora



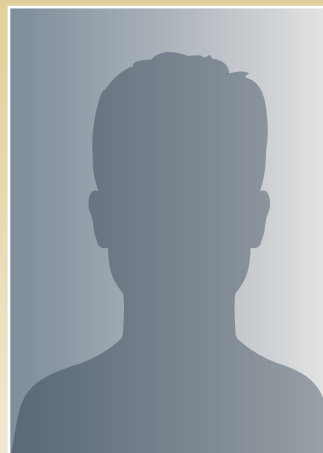
Brett Alexander
Powers



Mandy Rose Race



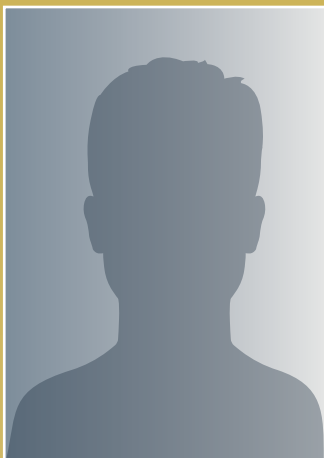
Joshua Timothy
Recker



Brett Michael
Redlinger



Zachary Edward
Romano



Ethan James Ryan



Cameron Rose
Schmitt



Faith Ann Schneider



David William
Schuessler



Jaden Breann
Schwartz



Adele Alena Sedlar



Stephanie Nicole
Shaw



Matthew James Shy



Michael Anthony
Silvio



Elliot John Stypula



Ian David Thomas

Brentwood High School Class of 2020



Graycen Marie Toth



Madeline Jean Travis



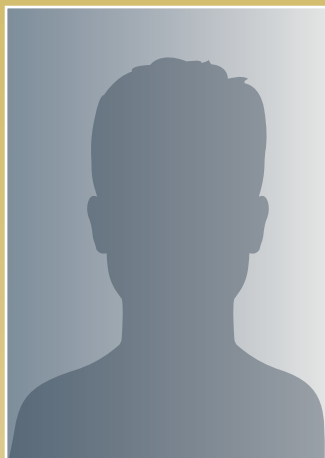
Paige Michelle Umbel



Matthew James
Veatch



Carly Marie Vickless



Cole Paul Walas



Alexis Elin Warning



Haley Nicole Weiss



Ethan Kenneth Wright



Justin Andre York



Christopher George
Ziegler



Collin Matthew
Zoglmann